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UNCLAS AMMAN 003454

SIPDIS

STATE FOR ECA/PE/C/CU (SROUSE); INFO NEA/PPD (BMOONEY;
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SUBJECT: 2003 Jazz Ambassadors Fall Tour

1. PAS wishes to be included in the Jazz Ambassadors Program for the fall FY03. We request the Jazz Ambassadors, Freddie Bryant and Kaleidoscope for four or five program days during their fall tour. We are very enthusiastic about the opportunity. There is a great interest here in Latin jazz, but opportunities for live concerts are extremely scarce, airplay is limited, and CDs and tapes are relatively expensive for the general public.

2. Program supports MPP goal of promoting Jordanian understanding and appreciation of U.S. society, culture and institutions. In accordance with mission policy, the musicians will be met at the airport upon arrival. During their program, staff will accompany them to all concerts, and other venues. While in country, the musicians will be staying in RSO approved accommodations.

3. In the aftermath of war in the region, it has become even more important to emphasize the universality of American culture and US interest in promoting strong ties with all sectors of Jordanian society. Music is a natural venue for these ties, and Latin jazz is extremely popular with Jordanian youth from all strata of society, as well as with traditional Embassy contacts. Invitees will include members of the royal family, high-level officials, business leaders, academicians, artists, students and music lovers from the general public. Thank you for this opportunity.

4. Control officer is: CAO Donna Winton, telephone: (962) 6-592-0101 ext. 2579; fax: (962) 6-592-0121; e-mail: dwinton@pd.state.gov. Please advise. Berry